



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

P

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/070,115	11/11/2002	Vasco Vollmer	10191/2156	9928
26646	7590	03/01/2006	EXAMINER	
KENYON & KENYON LLP ONE BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10004			ARTHUR JEANGLAUD, GERTRUDE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3661	
DATE MAILED: 03/01/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/070,115

Applicant(s)

VOLLMER ET AL.

Examiner

Gertrude Arthur-Jeanglaude

Art Unit

3661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 November 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9 and 15-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10-14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Prosecution is re-open in this application in view of a new reference.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 9, 16-18, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Millereau et al. (EP0444997) in view of Suman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,028,537).

As to claims 9, 16, Millereau et al. disclose a bus manager and method of operating a device which is connected to a vehicle communications network, the method comprising: detecting, using a bus manager (7), that data communication with the device in a switched-off state is necessary (by cutting the supply), and subsequently reactivating (re-establish the supply) the switched-off device by the bus manager via a frequency pulse (wake-up signals) (See abstract). Though Millereau disclose transmitting over a databus, it fails to specifically disclose having a frequency pulse transmitted over a power supply line. In a related art, Suman et al. disclose a vehicle system that comprises a device using radio frequency (rf) pulse transmitted over a power supply line (See col. 57, lines 59-67; col. 58, lines 1-25). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Millereau et al. with that of Suman by having a frequency pulse transmitted

over a power supply line in order to establish a better communication network for the vehicle.

As to claims 17-18, Millereau et al. disclose a bus manager and method for switching off all functionality but fails to specifically disclose a bit transmission layer of the device, except a functionality enabling the device to respond to the frequency pulse. In a related art, Suman et al. disclose a paging receiver (device) which is set to receive and transmit signal accordingly as a bit transmission layer (See col. 58, lines 27-41). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Millereau et al. with that of Suman by having a bit transmission layer of the device, except a functionality enabling the device to respond to the frequency pulse in order to establish a better communication network for the vehicle.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reuter (U.S. Patent No. 4,023,075) in view of Millereau et al. (EP0444997) and Suman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,028,537).

As to claim 15, Reuter discloses a device comprising an analyzer circuit (51) connected to a power supply line (13) as shown in Fig.4, the analyzer circuit including a frequency-selective filter and a threshold detector (See abstract; col. 15, lines 4-8). Reuter fails to specifically disclose an analyzer circuit connected to a power supply line, the analyzer circuit is configured to reactivate the device when a frequency pulse transmitted over the power supply line is present. In an analogous art, Millereau et al. disclose an analyzer circuit (12) connected to a power supply line, the analyzer

Art Unit: 3661

circuit is configured to reactivate (re establish) the device when a signal) transmitted over the power supply line but fails to specifically disclose that frequency pulse is transmitted over the power supply line. In a related art, Suman et al. disclose a paging receiver (device) which is set to receive and transmit signal accordingly as a bit transmission layer (See col. 58, lines 27-41). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Reuter and Millereau et al. with that of Suman by having a bit transmission layer of the device, except a functionality enabling the device to respond to the frequency pulse in order to establish a better communication network for the vehicle.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 10-14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior art fails to disclose comparing the frequency pulse with a threshold value by an analyzer circuit of the switched-off device', and reactivating the switched-off device when a signal power of the frequency pulse exceeds the threshold.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 9-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gertrude Arthur-Jeanglaude whose telephone number is

Art Unit: 3661

(571) 272-6954. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Black can be reached on (571) 272-6956. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

GAJ

GAJ

February 15, 2006

Gertrude A. Jeanglaude
GERTRUDE A. JEANGLAUDE
PRIMARY EXAMINER